

00684.003512



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
:)
YOSHINORI KOJIMA, et al.)
:) Group Art Unit: 2861
Application No.: 10/642,732)
:)
Filed: August 19, 2003)
:)
For: LIQUID CONTAINER,)
METHOD FOR DETACHING)
LIQUID AMOUNT IN)
LIQUID CONTAINER, AND)
LIQUID EJECTION)
RECORDING APPARATUS : April 13, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each non-U.S. patent document so listed is enclosed. Copies of U.S. patent documents are not enclosed, pursuant to the Notice published in the Official Gazette dated August 5, 2003.

U.S. Patent 5,616,929
U.S. Patent 6,274,880
U.S. Patent Application Publication 2001/0035887
U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0005869
U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0041313
Europe 860,284

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report, which is dated March 15, 2004, is enclosed. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. Moreover, inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. Sifert", written over a horizontal line.

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. 00684.003512		APPLICATION NO. 10/642,732	
				APPLICANT Yoshinori Kojima, et al			
				FILING DATE August 19, 2003		GROUP 2861	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,616,929	4/1/97	Hara	250	573	
		6,274,880	8/14/01	Walker	250	577	
		2001/35887	11/1/01	Altfather, et al	347	7	
		2002/5869	1/17/02	Locher, et al	347	7	
		2002/41313	4/11/02	Koitabashi, et al	347	86	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		860,284	8/26/98	Europe			
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy form with next communication to applicant.